

REMARKS

Claims 1-10, 13-17, 19-22 are now pending in the application. Claim 1 has been amended. Bases for the amendment can be found throughout the application, claims and drawings as originally filed and as such, no new matter has been presented. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

CLAIM REJECTIONS BASED ON 35 U.S.C. §101

The Office has rejected Claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. §101 stating that the claims are directed to non-statutory subject matter. Applicant notes that Claim 1 has been amended in the manner suggested by the Examiner. Accordingly, Applicant submits that the rejection of Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §101 has been rendered moot. Applicant also submits that as Claims 2-10 depend from Claim 1, they should be in condition for allowance for the reasons set forth for Claim 1, above.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER & COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Applicant gratefully notes the allowance of Claims 13-17 and 19-22. Applicant, however, believe that the Statement of Reasons for Allowance in this case is improper as it merely copies selected limitations of independent Claims 13, 17, 19 and 20 into the statement of reasons for allowance. While Applicant believes that the claims are allowable, Applicant does not acquiesce that patentability resides in each identified feature or combination of features, exactly as stated in the statement of reasons for allowance or expressed in the claims, or that each feature or combination of features identified is required for patentability, or that

equivalents of any of the recited features are outside the scope of the claims. Moreover, to the extent the Reasons For Allowance do not expressly address remaining Claims 14-16, 18, 21 and 22, Applicants do not acquiesce to any inference that these claims do not present patentable subject independent of the patentability of their respective independent claim.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,



By:

Michael D. Zalobsky
Reg. No. 45,512

Paul A. Keller
Reg. No. 29,752

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HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.
P.O. Box 828
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303
(248) 641-1600

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